

Washington, DC - Populist Caucus Chairman Bruce Braley (Iowa-01) and House Trade Working Group Chairman Mike Michaud (ME-02) sent a letter today to Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, encouraging them to include strong Buy American provisions in any forthcoming job creation bills.

"Recently, as America has suffered the worst economic recession since the Great Depression, unemployment has risen and is now around 10 percent," the letter reads. "We believe that the shipment of American jobs overseas is a factor in this rising unemployment. If we are going to pass a strong job creation bill then it only makes sense to include strong Buy American provisions, to further ensure that the jobs created as a result of this legislation are created within the United States.

"We have an obligation to create jobs in America. While some would argue that Buy American is nothing more than a trade protectionist label, it is clear that these provisions would equate to greater investment, and greater job-creation, within the U.S. In addition, Buy American provisions are perfectly legal under current trade agreements and many other nations use similar mechanisms to protect their domestic manufacturers. Therefore, we feel that it is entirely appropriate that this language be included in any upcoming job-creation measure, and we believe that this provision is essential to creating and retaining American jobs."

On Friday, Braley and 18 other members of the Populist Caucus sent a letter to House Leadership, encouraging them to pass a comprehensive jobs bill that expands the infrastructure investments previously made as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

[Read the letter here](#) .